

UTAH JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

JUNE 19, 2017 MEETING SUMMARY

On June 19, 2017 the Utah Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee (JJOC) convened for the second time in Salt Lake City, led by Ron Gordon, co-chair of the JJOC. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce new members; establish consensus on a review process for the JJOC; discuss existing working groups focused on implementation of juvenile justice changes; and hear stakeholder updates on detention admission guidelines, performance-based contracting and non-judicial adjustment and use of a sliding scale to assess fines and fees.

New JJOC Membership

Two new members joined the JJOC:

Clay Pearce, Associate Director, Prevention & Student Placement; Granite School District

Aaron Peterson, Director of Special Education; South Sanpete School District

JJOC Review Process

An executive committee for the JJOC has been established and includes Representative Lowry Snow, Ron Gordon, Susan Burke, Dawn Marie Rubio, Pam Vickrey and Patty Norman, as well as CCJJ staff. The executive committee is responsible for preparing meeting agendas and there was consensus by the full JJOC membership that part of the executive committee's role is to complete an initial review of any materials completed by other agencies as part of implementation efforts of HB 239. After the initial review and feedback through the executive committee, materials will be shared with all JJOC members for additional review and feedback before being determined as final products.

Working Groups

Since the passage of HB 239, several working groups have been established within and across agencies. There are also other working groups that existed prior to HB 239 whose work is relevant to the HB

239 implementation efforts. A list of working groups was shared with the JJOC and members were asked to provide additional information on the activities of these working groups to CCJJ staff to broadly share with the full membership. A request was made by Ron Gordon that Cuong Nguyen from CCJJ be invited to the various working group meetings. The purpose of involving Mr. Nguyen is so that there is a staff person who has a global view of juvenile justice efforts in the state and can help identify working group crossover opportunities and reduce duplication of efforts.

There was consensus on the establishment of two new working groups as an outgrowth of the JJOC: Communications Working Group and Education Working group. The Communications Working Group will span across all system agencies and stakeholders to produce materials that will aid in the understanding of the reforms in HB 239 and the implementation process. A strategic communication management tool has been created that the Communications Working Group can utilize. The management tool will be used to track targeted outreach to stakeholder groups and legislators regarding HB 239, manage media-related outreach and responses, and serve as a repository for all HB 239-related materials.

The Education Working Group will focus on addressing the needs and concerns of those in the education community and will include representatives from the Utah State Board of Education and local school districts.

Additionally, it was shared with JJOC members that a Data Working Group has been established and held its first meeting on June 19th. The purpose of that initial meeting was to review performance measures related to policies in HB 239 and learn from agency representatives about current capacity

to collect and report these data. The next Data Working Group meeting will be on July 17th.

Stakeholder Updates

Detention Admission Guidelines

Donovan Bergstrom from Juvenile Justice Services (JJS) and Sharon McCully, Retired Juvenile Judge and member of the Board of Juvenile Justice Services presented information on the proposed detention admission guidelines. The changes to the guidelines include:

- Admission for any class A misdemeanor against a person
- Youth under age 12 can no longer be admitted unless they are charged with a violent felony offense
- Youth can no longer be admitted for failure to appear at court hearings within the past 12 months

JJS shared that there will be three public hearings on the amended guidelines on July 10th, July 11th and July 12th in George, Salt Lake City and Logan, respectively.

Nonjudicial Adjustment and Sliding Scale

Dawn Marie Rubio from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) presented on the revised nonjudicial adjustment policy and the sliding fee scale for assessing nonjudicial adjustment fines and fees. The Board of Juvenile Court Judges is overseeing changes to the implementation on non-judicial adjustments, including the adoption of the sliding scale. There were questions and discussion from JJOC members to Ms. Rubio on the proposed

changes. Ms. Rubio indicated there was a few weeks left to provide additional feedback to be shared with the Board of Juvenile Court Judges before final adoption of the proposed changes.

Performance-Based Contracting

Brett Peterson from the Department of Human Services (DHS) presented on performance-based contracting (PBC) and House Bill 239. Mr. Peterson's presentation included a description of what PBC is, how it is defined in HB 239, and the statutory requirements included in the bill related to contracts for care, treatment and supervision and that PBC must be structured in such a way that incentivizes utilizing evidence-based programs, 90-day timelines for successful program completion, and availability of evidence-based programs for youth living in rural areas.

The ongoing development of the PBC system will include input from providers and PBC experts. A presentation will be given on July 19th by a PBC expert from Casey Family Programs.

Next Steps

The next Working Group meeting will take place on July 17th at 1 p.m. at the Utah State Capitol Complex, Copper Room. The Data, Education, and Communication Working Groups will continue meeting and provide updates on activities at the next JJOC meeting.

Since the June JJOC meeting was held, an email address was setup for members of the public to send questions or other inquiries to related to HB 239: hb239info@utah.gov